

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 831

By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to designate June 1, 2008, as “National Church School Day” and the months of June and July of 2008 as “Back to Church School Crusade Months” in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, a movement has been initiated in Memphis and Shelby County to establish and spread a “Back to Church School” crusade and across Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are proud to work with those spiritual leaders whose devout service to God and their respective communities has instilled in others the faith to follow His spiritual path; and

WHEREAS, Evangelist Nettie B. Rogers, founder of Memphis Inter-Denominational Fellowship, Inc., is one such distinguished citizen who is working to expand this idea into a nationwide movement for the direct benefit of our country by reaching the untouched and by enlisting, engaging, encouraging, and developing the great talent our youth possess today; and

WHEREAS, as a result of her dedication to the Lord’s work and her desire to better her community, Evangelist Nettie B. Rogers of Memphis founded and chartered in 1968 the Memphis Inter-Denominational Fellowship, Inc., establishing as its purpose to build spiritual and moral fiber promote Christian and public education, eliminate crime and juvenile delinquency, and reduce illiteracy, and

WHEREAS, launching its signature program, the “Back to Church School Crusade,” in 1970, Memphis Inter-Denominational Fellowship, Inc. enlisted the assistance of the Mayor of Memphis who proclaimed the first Sunday in June as “National Church School Day;” Shelby County government later joined with the City of Memphis and, in 2005, a joint City and County proclamation was issued designating June 5, 2005, as “National Church School Day”; and

WHEREAS, taking these youth from the streets and into an atmosphere of dedication, devotion, understanding, and prayer could be the necessary step to eliminate crime, delinquency, and other blighting characteristics usually attributed to the streets; and

WHEREAS, all churches, places of worship, clubs, organizations and affiliated groups are being asked to participate in the observance of a "National Church School Day" dedicated to the principles of the church school teachings; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that June 1, 2008, is hereby designated as "National Church School Day" in Tennessee and the months of June and July of 2008 are designated as "Back to Church School Crusade Months" in Tennessee. We urge all Tennesseans to participate in the observance of "National Church School Day" and "Back to Church School Crusade Months" and we request our citizens to contribute to the positive development of our youth by encouraging their attendance at Vacation Bible Schools and taking an active interest in future participation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.